

David Shelton  
2030 E. 9th St.  
Charlotte, NC 28204

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Dockets Management Branch (HFA-305)  
Food and Drug Administration  
5630 Fishers Lane, Room 1061  
Rockville, MD 20852

5 May, 1999

re: Docket #98n-1038

Dear Sir or Ms.,

In my opinion the wording of the current radiation disclosure statement should NOT be revised, and food labeling requirements should NOT expire at a specified date in the future.

As a private citizen I want to know what I and my family are eating, and I have grave concerns regarding the irradiation of food. Your agency must not cave in to pressure from special interest groups whose sole concern is monetary. There are other ways to ensure food safety besides employing this dangerous, unwholesome technology. For instance, the meat industry could clean up its act and stop trying to increase profit margins at the expense of sanitation. Has anyone asked why there is suddenly a sanitation problem in the food industry? How is it that the food supply has been safe enough in the past, but now we need to irradiate to make it safe?

Furthermore, it is intolerable that the FDA is even considering eliminating labeling requirements on irradiated food, never mind that they have approved this insane technology in the first place. With all the studies indicating serious problems with this technology, I can't understand why the FDA has approved its use, unless money is being exchanged at high levels behind the scenes. It would be nice if one could trust agencies of the Federal Government to act in the best interest of the people.

Best Regards,



David Shelton

98N-1038

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